

Message Text

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UNCLAS PARIS 26328

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FROM ARS

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: OAU OFFICIAL ON US ATTITUDES TOWARD AFRICA

1. "AMINA", PARIS-BASED AFRICAN WOMAN'S MAGAZINE PUBLISHES IN OCTOBER ISSUE AN INTERVIEW WITH MRS. SALIMATOU DIALLO, CHIEF OF ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY'S NEW YORK PRESS OFFICE. SUMMARY OF MAIN POINTS FOLLOWS.
 2. WHAT IS ROLE OF OAU NY OFFICE? A) TO COORDINATE ACTIONS OF VARIOUS AFRICAN DELEGATIONS AT UN. B) TO ACT AS AFRICAN INFORMATION SERVICE FOR AMERICAN PUBLIC.
 3. SINCE THE OAU OFFICE WAS ESTABLISHED, HAS THERE BEEN A CHANGE OF AMERICAN ATTITUDES TOWARD AFRICA? YES, THEY ARE MORE AND MORE INTERESTED IN THE "BLACK CONTINENT". WE PUBLISHED A MONTHLY BULLETIN AND FULFIL SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS AT UNIVERSITIES AND ELSEWHERE. THE LATTER RESULT IN CASH CONTRIBUTIONS, ESPECIALLY FROM BLACK AMERICANS--EVEN THE POOREST OF THEM--TO AID LIBERATION
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- MOVEMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.
4. ARE BLACK AMERICANS PROUD OF THEIR AFRICAN ORIGIN, AND HOW DO THEY MANIFEST IT? BLACK AMERICANS ARE NOW CONSCIOUS OF THEIR ORIGIN. FOR SOME YEARS NOW, THEY HAVE WORN AFRO HAIRDOS AND DASHIKIS. SOME HAVE ADOPTED AFRICAN NAMES. CHARTER FLIGHTS ORGANIZED BY AAI HAVE

PLAYED A GREAT ROLE.

5. WHAT KIND OF PROBLEMS DOES AN AFRICAN ENCOUNTER IN THE USA? HE MUST HAVE SUFFICIENTS FUNDS, AS LIFE IS NOT AS EASY AS ONE IS LED TO BELIEVE IN AFRICA. SCHOLARSHIPS ARE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN. ONE MUST HAVE THE RIGHT VISA TO LIVE AND WORK IN THE US, OR THE EMIGRATION (SIC) SERVICE MAKES YOUR LIFE IMPOSSIBLE. STUDIES ARE EXTREMELY COSTLY, AND ONE SHOULD NOT COME WITHOUT A SCHOLARSHIP.

6. DO MARRIED WOMEN HAVE SPECIAL PROBLEMS? WOMEN WITH CHILDREN WHO WISH TO WORK FIND THEY ARE NO DAYCARE CENTERS, AND NANNIES ARE EXPENSIVE, UNLIKE IN EUROPE WHERE THE SYSTEM IS WELL ORGANIZED AND INEXPENSIVE. NURSERY SCHOOLS FROM 9AM TO NOON COST \$100 PER CHILD. IT IS CHEAPER TO TAKE ALONG A NANNY.

7. FOR AGENCY: COULD YOU OBTAIN AND FORWARD TO ARS SAMPLES OF OAU'S MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR AMERICAN AUDIENCES.
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